

to say nothing of the ignorant and misled, who will return in due time to the exercise of reason and fair judgment.

Crushed for a moment, by the judgment of the Board, upon the untruth and malice of their charges, the conspirators with their semi-political abettors rallied for another onslaught. Their family connections, those who profited by the large patronage of the Steward's office, those who saw something to gain in the general scramble for place upon a change of administration here, those whose excitable feelings could be stirred by tales of imaginary wrong, were gathered into so-called indignation meetings, held under the immediate influence of the abettors of the conspirators discredited by the action of the Board. Not one meeting of that character has taken place except under their engineering, with the possible exception of those at the homes of two members of the Board whose action is yet to be referred to.

These lawless proceedings were defended to the brink of anarchy, and the point of surrendering law and justice into the hands of the mob, by a sheet which seeks notoriety by slanderous scurrility, sacrificing manhood, truth and decency, in the search for sensations. By ingenious and persistent misrepresentation, false and misleading summaries of evidence which suppressed material points of the defence, and the utterance of long concealed hostility in villification of the management of the Asylum and myself, from a soul without conscience, a mind devoid of any conception of honor, and a pen without shame, the *State Chronicle* injected its venom into its fanatical followers, and even distorted the vision of journals of high character for truth and honesty, through the amazing assumption of its malicious assertions.

These preparations having been completed, a most extraordinary series of acts of Executive usurpation, and petty official tyranny, heretofore unparalleled in North Carolina, have taken place to arrange for the concluding scene of the drama. The political inspiration that accounts for the amazing audacity of these conspirators in attempting to mould a corrupt public senti-